



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Uwe HEITMANN

Appl. No: 09/657,812

Filed: September 8, 2000

For: ARRANGEMENT FOR REDUCING
THE NOISE LEVEL OF TOBACCO-
PROCESSING PRODUCTION
MACHINES

Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Carlos N. Lopez

Atty. Docket No: 31653-165337

Customer No:



26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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JUL 29 2002
TC 1700

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

DE 2910371 was deemed to be a category "Y" reference (particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category) in an Office Action issued by the German Patent Office in a German counterpart application of U.S. Application No. 09/650,741, also submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of

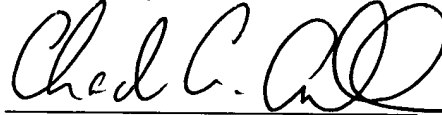
the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Date: 07/24/02

Respectfully submitted,



Chad C. Anderson

Registration No. 44,505

VENABLE

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 962-4800

Telefax: (202) 962-8300